

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON SCOPE OF EIS

Description of proposal: Seattle City Light, a department of the City of Seattle, will conduct an Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) process, scheduled for completion in late summer 2006. The IRP will analyze Seattle City Light's electricity demand levels and energy resource options over the period 2006 – 2025. The results of the IRP process will be used to guide resource decisions. It is anticipated that the IRP will be updated approximately every two years.

Proponent: City of Seattle, City Light Department

Location of proposal: Energy resource options will not be identified by specific location, but will probably be located in the west coast electrical system. Any particular resources that SCL considers as a result of the IRP will undergo environmental evaluation based upon their specific design and location.

Lead agency: City of Seattle, City Light Department (Seattle City Light)

EIS Required. The lead agency has determined this proposal is likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c) and will be prepared. Documents from City Light's previous resource planning efforts, including documents evaluating likely environmental impacts, can be reviewed at our offices (contact Kathleen Sharp at 206-386-4569 to schedule) or on the web at www.cityofseattle.net/light/news/issues/irp.

The lead agency has identified the following areas for discussion in the EIS:

- impacts to air, water, land, fish and wildlife resources, impacts to health, and aesthetic and cultural resources, from various options for meeting demand for electrical energy
- where possible, impacts over the life cycle of electricity production, including extraction and transportation of fuel, use of fuel, disposal of spent fuel and waste by-products

The Integrated Resource Plan will quantitatively consider the following resource alternatives: conservation measures, wind, biomass, biogas, landfill gas, geothermal, natural gas combustion turbines, coal, hydropower, forward power purchases from the Bonneville Power Administration and other suppliers, seasonal power exchange agreements, mid-term hedging transactions, and hydropower efficiency improvements. In addition, in anticipation of future resource planning efforts, qualitative information will be prepared for other resources, including fuel cells, combined heat and power distributed generation, wave and tidal power, customer demand response, solar power, and nuclear power.

The Environmental Impact Statement will analyze the impacts of individual resources as well as combinations of resources that could be used to meet Seattle City Light customers' energy demands.

Scoping. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. You may comment on alternatives, mitigation measures, probable significant adverse impacts, and licenses or other approvals that may be required.

Please comment by **5 pm, November 22, 2005**, in writing to:

Mail: Seattle City Light
Attn: Corinne Grande / IRP EIS Scope Comments
PO Box 34023
Seattle, WA 98124-4023

Fax: Attn: Corinne Grande / IRP Scoping Comments
(206) 386-4589

Email: scl.irp@seattle.gov

Web Site: www.cityofseattle.net/light/news/issues/irp

Public Meeting. A public meeting will be held on November 14, 2005, to discuss the Integrated Resource Plan and the Environmental Impact Statement scoping. The meeting will be held from 4 to 7 pm in the Seattle City Hall, 600 Fourth Avenue, Bertha Knight Landes Room.

Responsible official: Jorge Carrasco, Superintendent

Signature

Lynn Best for

Date

10/19/05

Contact Person: Corinne Grande
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